Application No.: 10/689,803 Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-1248 DIV

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-5 and 8 are cancelled. Claims 9-11 are added. Claims 6-7 remain in this application as amended herein. Accordingly, claims 6-7 and 9-11 are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration.

In the Office Action, claims 6-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter, and claims 6-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant submits that claims 6-7, as amended herein, are in compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 101 and with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 and 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

New claims 9-11 depend from claim 6, and Applicant submits that these claims are likewise in compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 and 112, second paragraph. Support for new claims 9-11 is found, e.g., in Figs. 8 and 9 and on pages 29-32 of the specification.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth Official Action have been fully met, favorable in reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

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If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: April 24, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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